

## Family & Self-Advocate Conversation – Q&A 9.15.21 & 9.16.21

Q: Will there be any request for additional funds for FS360 to the legislature this next session?

A: Yes. DDD's budget request typically includes additional funds for growth in services for the Family Support 360 waiver and for the CHOICES waiver.

Q: Is there a timeline that parents could expect being able to hire companion providers?

A: At this time, DDD does not have a definitive timeline to resolve the hiring limitations imposed by Agencies with Choice. We understand the hardship this creates for many families and are working toward both long- and short-term solutions.

Q: Will we get to see what you are planning to put in the new waiver before you've written the service definitions?

A: Yes, DDD has collaborated with the Family Support Council to identify and draft definitions for therapeutic services not currently included in the waiver and will continue to provide updates, request feedback and work in partnership with families through the submission deadline of March 1, 2022 using the following platforms:

- Family Support Council meetings
- Family & Self-Advocate Conversations
- Brief survey of those utilizing Family Support 360 regarding gaps in services and recommended changes.

Q: What is being done in relation to crisis services?

A: DDD's Community Collaboration efforts bring a team of people together to gather and review information in order to provide person-centered supports and/or services to those who display maladaptive behaviors — with the goal of providing supports to prevent a crisis. In addition, DDD has two certified trainers who can providing Safety Care for Families training to family members of those who display maladaptive behaviors.

Q: Will informational videos be on the website? What will the rollout of that look like?

A: DDD plans to include informational, topic-specific videos on our website. We are still in the process of planning the rollout and distribution of the videos, but they will "live" on the DDD website once



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complete. In addition, DDD will be sending a survey link to families and self-advocates to gather ideas for video topics.

Q: Are the phone interviews you mentioned intended to ask people about their experience in accessing services?

A: Yes – as part of DDD's efforts to improve the experience of people inquiring about developmental disability services, telephone interviews will be conducted with a sample of people/families who have entered either the CHOICES or FS 360 waiver in the past year to gather feedback regarding their experience and recommendations for changes in the process.

Q: As a Family Support Council member, I have had parents ask how to find out about the next Family Support Council meeting. Could a link be added to DDD website, instead of having to find Boards and Commissions?

A: Yes, a link to the Boards and Councils page can be added to the DDD website to help people find the information regarding upcoming meetings, notes, etc. more easily.

Q: Is there a way to send a notice to FS Coordinators and ask they send to their families/participants?

A: Yes. Prior to each Family Support Council meeting, Family Support Coordinators receive the agenda, time and link to all FS Council meetings and are asked to share with the families they support. If you have not received this information, please contact your FS Coordinator.

Q: I didn't receive an agenda for tonight's meeting – can that be sent directly to the contact list?

A: DDD has started a contact list which includes those who have shared their contact information and will be sending email updates and announcements regarding Family & Self-Advocate Conversations. A formalized agenda will not be sent; however, the topic for each session in those communications as well as via the flyer with the date, time, and connection information.